



The “Southwest Coastal Louisiana Draft Integrated Feasibility Report and Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement” was released in December 2013 and public review was completed in February 2014. However, due to public, technical, and policy comments received, additional analyses completed since the last public review have resulted in revisions significant enough to justify resubmission of a revised draft report for a second public review. This Revised Integrated Draft Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement updates stakeholders and interested parties on changes to the Tentatively Selected Plans (TSPs) for the National Economic Development (NED) and National Ecosystem Restoration (NER) components of the study. The SWC project proposes to provide nonstructural hurricane and storm surge damage risk reduction measures and ecosystem restoration features across 4,700 square miles in Calcasieu, Cameron, and Vermilion Parishes in southwest Louisiana. Potential impacts of both the NED and the NER plans are further described in this Report.

The NED purpose is to reduce the risk of hurricane and storm surge and flood damages. The NED TSP still consists of a programmatic nonstructural plan for the flood proofing of eligible structures in the 25-year floodplain by various methods including the elevation of eligible residential structures, dry flood proofing of eligible non-residential commercial structures, and the construction of berms and floodwalls of less than six feet in height around eligible industrial complexes and warehouses. Although the program is primarily voluntary in nature, some structures may be subject to eminent domain if certain established criteria as outlined in the NED TSP are met. Additional National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) assessments will be required prior to implementation of the nonstructural program.

The purpose of the NER plan is to restore environmental conditions for the Chenier Plain ecosystem as more fully described in the LCA Ecosystem Restoration Study (2004). The NER TSP consists of 51 ecosystem restoration features that are now being recommended for construction, in addition to the recommendation for a long-range study of the Calcasieu Ship Channel salinity control structure. The plan includes nine marsh restoration measures, one hydrologic and salinity control measure, five shoreline protection measures, and a Chenier reforestation program consisting of planting seedling trees and invasive species control at 35 locations in Cameron and Vermilion Parishes. The previously released SWC draft report documented a NER TSP consisting of features for restoration but under a programmatic recommendation (thus requiring additional NEPA and design documentation to be completed before construction could occur). This Report addresses the need for outstanding NEPA and feasibility-level design work on the NER TSP. The 2013 draft report is incorporated herein by reference and included in Appendix M.

There is a potential for beneficial direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts to wetlands, wildlife, fisheries, and water quality with implementation of the NER TSP. Environmental Justice (EJ) requires the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. There is a potential for adverse impacts and an inequitable distribution of environmental burdens to certain communities depending on how the NED TSP is applied. Additional analysis and outreach to EJ communities would be conducted before implementing the nonstructural program to minimize any potential disproportionate impacts and develop appropriate mitigation strategies if necessary. The nonstructural program will be fully compliant with Executive Order 12898.

**Comments:** Please send comments to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New Orleans District, Attention: Sandra Stiles, CEMVN-PDN-CEP, P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, LA 70160-0267, by e-mail: [SWCoastalAdmin@usace.army.mil](mailto:SWCoastalAdmin@usace.army.mil) or by Fax: (504) 862-1892. Please direct questions by telephone: (504) 862-1583. The comment period closing date will be 45 days from the date of publication of the Notice of Availability in the *Federal Register*.

